UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS EL PASO DIVISION

FILED
2019 MAR II PM 4: 29

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

VARIOUS ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

Respondent.

CIVIL ACTION NO.

SPECIAL DESCRIPTION NO.

SPE

VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE

Comes now Petitioner United States of America, by and through the United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas and the undersigned Assistant United States Attorney, pursuant to Rule G, Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and respectfully states as follows:

I. NATURE OF THIS ACTION

This action is brought by the United States of America seeking forfeiture to the United States of the properties described below:

- 1. Alcatel Laptop Tablet;
- 2. Aspire Laptop;
- 3. Nook tablet;
- 4. I-Pad (broken);
- 5. Floppy Disk;
- 6. Two (2) DVD-RW;
- 7. DVD-RW Marked Photos;
- 8. Dell Desktop Computer;
- 9. HP Laptop Computer;
- 10. Sandisk Cruzer;
- 11. Sandisk Cruzer;
- 12. Sandisk Ultra USB;
- 13. Logitech USB;
- 14. SD USB;

- 17. Caviar 21600 Hard Drive;
- 18. Seagate Hard Drive;
- 19. Toshiba Laptop;
- 20. Compaq Laptop Computer;
- 21. Toshiba Laptop;
- 22. Aveteck Laptop;
- 23. USB-3 External Drive;
- 24. Samsung Galaxy Phone;
- 25. Samsung Gold Phone;
- 26. Lenovo Laptop Computer;
- 27. Toshiba Laptop;
- 28. Dell Laptop;
- 29. Three (3) Floppy Disks;
- 30. Android Flash Drive;

- 15. Gray USB;
- 16. Five (5) DVD-RW;

- 31. Western Digital Hard Drive; and
- 32. Any and all other property involving any visual depiction described in section 2251, 2251A, or 2252, 2252A, 2252B, or 2260.

hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent Properties."

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The Court has original jurisdiction of all civil actions, suits or proceedings commenced by the United States under Title 28 U.S.C. § 1345 and over an action for forfeiture under Title 28 U.S.C. § 1355(a). This Court has *in rem* jurisdiction over the Respondent Real Property under Title 28 U.S.C. §§ 1355(b) and 1395(a). Venue is proper in this district pursuant to Title 28 U.S.C. § 1355(b)(1) because the acts or omissions giving rise to the forfeiture occurred in this district.

III. STATUTORY BASIS FOR FORFEITURE

This is a civil forfeiture action *in rem* brought against the Respondent Real Property for violations of Title 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252 and 2252A subject to forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 2254 which states:

Title 18 U.S.C. § 2254. Civil forfeiture

Any property subject to forfeiture pursuant to section 2253 may be forfeited to the United States in a civil case in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 46.

IV. FACTS IN SUPPORT OF VIOLATIONS

See Appendix "A" for facts under seal.

V. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, United States of America, prays that due process issue to enforce the forfeiture of the Respondent Properties, that due notice, pursuant to Rule G(4), be

given to all interested parties to appear and show cause why forfeiture should not be decreed, ¹ that a warrant for an arrest in rem be ordered, that the Respondent Properties be forfeited to the United States of America, that the Respondent Properties be disposed of in accordance with the law, and for any such further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. BASH United States Attorney

Bv:

Kristal M. Wade

New Mexico Bar No.: 8204 Assistant United States Attorney 700 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite 200

El Paso, Texas 79901 Tel: (915) 534-6884 Fax: (915) 534-3461

¹Appendix B, Notice of Complaint of Forfeiture, which is being filed along with this complaint, will be sent to those known to the United States to have an interest in the Respondent Properties.

VERIFICATION

Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI") Special Agent Lisamarie Gulley, declares and says that:

- 1. I am a Special Agent with the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI"), assigned to the El Paso Division Office. I am the investigator responsible for the accuracy of the information provided in this litigation.
- 2. I have read the above Verified Complaint for Forfeiture and know the contents thereof; that the information contained in the Verified Complaint for Forfeiture has been furnished by official government sources; and based upon information and belief, the allegations contained in the Verified Complaint for Forfeiture are true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 11th day of March, 2019.

Lisamarie Gulley, Special Agent
Department of Homeland Security
Homeland Security Investigations

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS EL PASO DIVISION

FILED

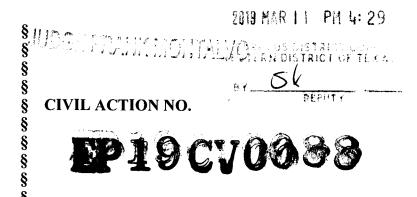
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

VARIOUS ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

Respondent.



NOTICE OF COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE

On March 11, 2019, the United States of America, by and through its United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas and the undersigned Assistant United States Attorney, filed a Verified Complaint for Forfeiture against the properties described below, which is also specifically described in the Verified Complaint for Forfeiture, and which is subject to forfeiture to the United States pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 2254, as properties involved in the violation of Title 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252 and 2252A, namely:

- 1. Alcatel Laptop Tablet;
- 2. Aspire Laptop;
- 3. Nook tablet:
- 4. I-Pad (broken);
- 5. Floppy Disk;
- 6. Two (2) DVD-RW;
- 7. DVD-RW Marked Photos;
- 8. Dell Desktop Computer;
- 9. HP Laptop Computer;
- 10. Sandisk Cruzer:
- 11. Sandisk Cruzer;
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- 21. Toshiba Laptop;
- 22. Aveteck Laptop;
- 23. USB-3 External Drive;
- 24. Samsung Galaxy Phone;
- 25. Samsung Gold Phone;
- 26. Lenovo Laptop Computer;
- 27. Toshiba Laptop;
- 28. Dell Laptop;
- 29. Three (3) Floppy Disks;
- 30. Android Flash Drive;
- 31. Western Digital Hard Drive; and
- 32. Any and all other property involving any visual depiction described in section 2251, 2251A, or 2252, 2252A, 2252B, or 2260.

hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent Properties."

Pursuant to Rule G(4)(b) of the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential claimant shall be by direct notice. Accompanying this notice is the Verified Complaint for Forfeiture which has been filed in this cause and which describes the Respondent Properties. Pursuant to Supplemental Rule G(4)(b), any person claiming an interest in the Respondent Properties who has received direct notice of this forfeiture action must file a Claim in compliance with Rule G(5)(a), with the court within thirty-five (35) days after the notice was sent, if delivered by mail (if mailed, the date sent is provided below), or within 35 days of the date of delivery, if notice was personally served. An Answer or motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure must then be filed within twenty-one (21) days of the Claim being filed. The Claim and Answer must be filed with the Clerk of the Court, 525 Magoffin, Suite 105, El Paso, Texas 79901, and copies of each must be served upon Assistant United States Attorney Kristal M. Wade, 700 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79901, or default and forfeiture will be ordered. See Title 18 U.S.C. § 983(a)(4)(A) and Rule G(5) of the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claim and Asset Forfeiture Actions.

Failure to follow the requirements set forth above will result in a judgment by default taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DATE	NOTICE	SENT:	
	TIGHT	~==:	

JOHN F. BASH United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas

By:

Kristal M. Wade Assistant United States Attorney New Mexico Bar No. 8204 700 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite 200 El Paso, TX 79901

Tel: 915-534-6884 Fax: 915-534-3461 RECEIVED

MAR 1 1 2019

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT CLERK WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **EL PASO DIVISION**

DEPUTY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

VARIOUS ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

Respondent.

§

CIVIL ACTION NO.

EP 19 CV 00 8 8

ORDER FOR WARRANT OF ARREST OF PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2019, Petitioner United States of America, by its attorneys, John F. Bash, United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, and Assistant United States Attorney Kristal M. Wade, filed a Verified Complaint for Forfeiture in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, against the following properties:

- 1. Alcatel Laptop Tablet;
- 2. Aspire Laptop;
- 3. Nook tablet:
- 4. I-Pad (broken);
- 5. Floppy Disk;
- 6. Two (2) DVD-RW;
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- 25. Samsung Gold Phone;
- 26. Lenovo Laptop Computer;
- 27. Toshiba Laptop;
- 28. Dell Laptop;
- 29. Three (3) Floppy Disks;
- 30. Android Flash Drive;
- 31. Western Digital Hard Drive; and
- 32. Any and all other property involving any visual depiction described in section 2251. 2251A, or 2252, 2252A, 2252B, or 2260,

seized on or about October 24, 2018, in El Paso, Texas, in the Western District of Texas

(hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent Properties"), alleging that the Respondent Properties

are subject to forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 2254, as

properties involved in the violation of Title 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252 and 2252A,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that a Warrant for the Arrest of Properties against the

Respondent Properties issue as prayed for, and that the Department of Homeland Security, United

State Customs and Border Protection, Office of Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures, or any other law

enforcement officer, or any other person or organization authorized by law to enforce the warrant,

be commanded to arrest the Respondent Properties and take them into possession for safe custody

as provided by Rule G, Supplemental Rules of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, until further order

of the Court, and to use whatever means may be appropriate to protect and maintain them in their

custody, including designating a substitute custodian or representative for the purposes of

maintaining the care and custody of the Respondent Properties, and to make a return as provided

by law.

SIGNED this ____ day of March, 2019.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

2

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MAR 1 1 2019

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **EL PASO DIVISION**

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT CLERK
WESTERN DISTRICT, OF TEXAS
BY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

VARIOUS ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

Respondent.

§ § § § CIVIL ACTION NO. 8 8 8 8 8 EP19CV0038

<u>WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF PROPERTIES</u>

§

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, OFFICE OF FINES, PENALTIES AND FORFEITURES, OR OTHER AUTHORIZED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO ENFORCE THE **WARRANT:**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2019, Petitioner United States of America, by its attorneys, John F. Bash, United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, and Assistant United States Attorney Kristal M. Wade, filed a Verified Complaint for Forfeiture in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, against the following properties:

- 1. Alcatel Laptop Tablet;
- 2. Aspire Laptop:
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16. Five (5) DVD-RW;

32. Any and all other property involving any visual depiction described in section 2251,

2251A, or 2252, 2252A, 2252B, or 2260,

seized on or about October 24, 2018, in El Paso, Texas, in the Western District of Texas

(hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent Properties"), alleging that the Respondent Properties

are subject to forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 2254, as

properties involved in the violation of Title 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252 and 2252A, and

WHEREAS an Order has been entered by the United States District Court for the Western

District of Texas that a Warrant for Arrest of Properties be issued as prayed for by Petitioner United

States of America,

YOU ARE THEREFORE COMMANDED to arrest the Respondent Properties as soon as

practicable by serving a copy of this warrant on the custodian in whose possession, custody or

control the Respondent Properties are presently found, and to use whatever means may be

appropriate to protect and maintain them in your custody until further order of this Court, including

designating a substitute custodian or representative for the purposes of maintaining the care and

custody of the Respondent Properties and to make a return as provided by law.

SIGNED this day of March, 2019.

JEANNETTE J. CLACK United States District Clerk

Western District of Texas

By:

Deputy

2

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and some of leading for their periods of replaced by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in Some of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

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Kristal M. Wade, Assista	ant United States Attorni	<i>?</i> ⊇v		Attorneys (If Known)			SART IN E		
700 E. San Antonio, Suit		-,							
El Paso, Texas 79901	(915) 534-6884								
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VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS IS	S A CLASS ACTION	DE	MAND S	C	HECK YES only is	f demanded in	complaint:	_
COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 23,	F.R.Cv.P.				JRY DEMAND:	☐ Yes	□ No	
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